

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

RENALDO WHITE and RANDOLPH
NADEAU, individually and on behalf
of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

SYMETRA ASSIGNED BENEFITS
SERVICE COMPANY; SYMETRA
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,

Defendants.

CASE NO. C20-1866 MJP

ORDER DENYING JOINT
REQUESTS

This matter comes before the Court on a pair of requests made as part of the Parties' August 9, 2024, Joint Status Report. (Dkt. No. 145.) The Court has reviewed the requests and declines both at this time. The Parties may renew their requests via motion as per the instructions included in this order.

The Court declines the Parties request to assign a magistrate judge to preside over a settlement conference. The Court directs the Parties to first attempt a settlement conference using a third-party mediator or enlisting a volunteer mediator found on the Court's website

1 (<https://www.wawd.uscourts.gov/attorneys/adr>). Should the Parties be unable to afford a private
2 mediator—or if a private settlement conference proves unsuccessful—the Parties may then
3 renew their joint request via a motion for a court-appointed mediator as per LR 26(f)(1)(D)(v).
4 Appointment of a mediator will require a showing of good cause before the Court will expend
5 court resources for the purpose of settlement.

6 The Court also declines the Parties request to stay the litigation for 90 days. Should the
7 Parties schedule a settlement conference, they may renew their request for a stay of litigation via
8 motion. The Court advises the Parties that any stay pending a scheduled settlement conference
9 will last only until the completion of the conference, regardless of whether the Parties come to an
10 agreement.

11 The two requests contained in the Joint Status Agreement, (Dkt. No. 145) are therefore
12 DENIED. The Parties may renew these requests via motion as per the instructions in this Order.

13 The clerk is ordered to provide copies of this order to all counsel.

14 Dated August 12, 2024.

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18 Marsha J. Pechman
19 United States Senior District Judge
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